Abstract

Access to information is controlled by maintaining, for a given device or other entity through which information may be accessed, a

5   contact list that includes information identifying one or more other entities which have attempted to communicate with the given entity. In accordance with the invention, the contact list is utilized in conjunction with a revocation list stored in a memory associated with the given entity in order to determine which of the other entities are

10   authorized to communicate with the given entity. The contact list includes a number of entries, each entry having at least an identifier of a particular one of the other entities and a corresponding revocation flag indicating whether the particular entity has been revoked. The contact list is updated after a modification of the

15   revocation list, or if a new entity not already included in the contact list attempts to communicate with the given entity.